

# THE GATEWAY

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## Students rally for postsecondary education

MIRAGHAN DIETZ  
News Writer

A cold but determined group of U of A students marched from the steps of the Legislature to the University in support of postsecondary education Friday morning.

The parade kicked off with the sound of trumpets from a makeshift marching band and an open invitation to the premier from SU President Jordon Blatz.

"On numerous occasions throughout the summer, the premier was quoted in the media as saying, 'It's my political belief that you find out which way the parade is going and you get in front of it,'" said Blatz, explaining that Klein's quote prompted organizers to hold the parade pushing for more government funding for postsecondary education.

"Dear Honorable Premier Ralph Klein: the students of the University of Alberta invite you to lead our parade for postsecondary education today, Friday, 29 October," read Blatz.

"The parade will leave from the Legislature at 10:30am and end at the University of Alberta. If you are unable to attend, the parade will leave without you, as postsecondary education is too vital to continue to be ignored."

PLEASE SEE PARADE • PAGE 3



MIKO OTTO

PARADING FOR CHANGE U of A students rallied in support of postsecondary education last Friday, marching from the legislature to the U of A campus.

## Green change slow but possible, says Greenpeace co-founder

A profile of activist and journalist Rex Weyler, recent author of *Greenpeace: how a group of ecologists, journalists and visionaries changed the world*

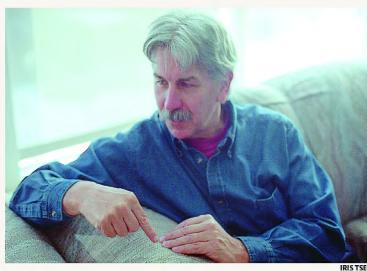
CAITLIN CRAWSHAW  
News Editor

People who stand up for change are regular people, says Greenpeace co-founder Rex Weyler. Yet there is a critical difference between those who become active citizens and those who don't.

"To stand up, you can't be intimidated by the consequences of having a conscience," he says.

Standing up against the status quo has always involved opposition, Weyler figures. It's a lot of work, often a hassle and can put one's well-being into jeopardy. Yet, in today's political and environmental climates, Weyler says there is no choice—governments, corporations and media cannot be trusted to push for environmental change; citizens must act.

"If we hide from the problem, or pretend they don't exist, we can't



CITIZENS MUST ACT Greenpeace co-founder Rex Weyler.

solve them. We have to articulate them," Weyler argues.

In fact, the noted American journalist and environmental activist has been articulating these problems for

most of his adult life. Shortly after beginning an engineering apprenticeship, Weyler decided to switch gears.

PLEASE SEE WEYLER • PAGE 2

## Inside



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6 In honour of the US presidential election, our opinion writers discuss the state of US politics. Adam Schlesinger, John Fensievic and Ramin Ostad give you the lowdown.

## From the archives

The Boston Pizza on Whyte Avenue came under fire for refusing service to "longhairs" in November of 1993. Students Council representatives were sent away due to their "unclean" appearance. The next day, the Gateway sent a reporter and photographer to investigate; both of whom were denied entry to the establishment because of their long hair. When the manager was questioned about the restaurant's "no long hair" policy, he argued he had every right to refuse them service. "If Trudeau or the Queen came in and we didn't want to serve them, we wouldn't have to," he argued. SU representatives planned to take the restaurant to court under the new Alberta Human Rights Act.

1969



10 Today is a big day for the U of A soccer teams. The Bears and Pandas both played at Foote Field, needing a win to qualify for the playoffs. The story is in Sports.

because of drastically reduced usage, especially by faculty and staff," said Marika Bourque, the associate chief information technology officer and director of CNS.

"The modem pool is important because it allows students who can't otherwise afford access to Internet service a way of being able to access a lot of our online services for free," said SU Vice-President (Academic) Lisa McLaughlin.

But with decreasing resources and increasing costs, CNS reviewed their services and decided the money would be better spent elsewhere.

"Over the last number of years, the modem-pool size has been decreased

"The modem pool was identified as being outside our core service delivery and there are many alternatives, most much faster and more reliable, available for accessing the Internet."

PLEASE SEE MODEM • PAGE 4

# THE GATEWAY

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# Anyone can 'stand up' for green change, says Weyler

WEYLER • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

He chose a life as a journalist and activist, and has written countless articles and books related to environmental issues.

Denver-born Weyler has published his photos and essays in National Geographic, Oceans, Smithsonian, the New York Times, Rolling Stone and other publications. In addition to this, he received a Pulitzer Prize nomination in 1982 for his Native American history, *Blood of the Land*.

Weyler was on campus last Wednesday to promote his newest book, *Greenpeace: how a group of ecologists, journalists and visionaries changed the world*. Weyler helped kick-start one of the largest environmental advocacy organizations in the world.

Thirty years ago, he was among the first Greenpeace members—meeting in pubs and coffee houses, organizing in living rooms. Convincing of the need to educate the public about the environment, Weyler and his peers set out to change the world, though they were initially a penniless organization without an office or even a telephone.

Today, Greenpeace is an international organization, but Weyler maintains that individuals can best

affect change.

"I think it's important for people to know that when you see an environmental problem, you don't have to call Greenpeace. It's better to do it yourself. You don't need the big organization, and you don't need the money," he says.

**"I think it's important for people to know that when you see an environmental problem, you don't have to call Greenpeace. It's better to do it yourself."**

REX WEYLER,  
GREENPEACE CO-FOUNDER

"What you need is to stand up and not let it happen. And that's one of the reasons I wrote the book: for people to see that in the beginnings of Greenpeace that's the way it was—we were just like anyone else: we were just people who wanted to change things."

And things have changed a great

deal since Greenpeace began, Weyler notes. Once "ecology" was a term that meant very little to the average college student. Weyler figures that in the '60s, if you asked a hundred students, you wouldn't have received even four reasonable definitions.

"People's idea of the environment was like, 'Don't litter the highway,'" he jokes.

In 1969, Cleveland's Cuyahoga river was so polluted with petroleum and toxic substances that it caught fire. A film of the river burning was one of the first images that drew Weyler to environmental issues.

"It's hard to imagine, but it's like, when the rivers are burning, that's a sign. To me, it was like, what more do you need to tell you that ecology's important? The rivers are burning."

Now, North Americans are far more aware of the need for environmental protection, but action isn't being taken to the degree it ought to, he says.

Weyler argues that we are only at the beginning of an environmental crisis on Earth, noting that half of the world's petroleum resources have been exhausted in only a century, and pointing to the unsustainable lifestyles of first world countries.

"It's never going to be over. In the future we're still going to have to

stand up," Weyler says.

"And even though it's depressing when you think about it, if we don't think about and we don't talk about it, if we don't put pressure on the government and corporations to change, then it's going to be even more depressing. It will get worse. I think we can solve the problems, but it's going to be hard."

Weyler believes that ultimately change is slow, and that citizens must be vigilant in ensuring the changes they're successfully pushed for aren't repealed.

"You make changes, you achieve things, and then if you don't keep your eye on the ball, it'll go backwards. It's like civil rights in the US right now—it's gone backwards. There are fewer civil rights in the US than there were 30 years ago. And you can work and work and work to change the environmental laws, and then they just change them back when you're not looking, essentially. You can never give up," Weyler says.

"All of the attempts to change society on a grand scale have failed."

After 30 years of fighting for environmental and political change, Weyler says he maintains hope.

"If I wasn't hopeful I wouldn't be out there saying it," he says.

## CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Adam Rozenhart  
(eic@gateway.ualberta.ca)

### THE NAME GAME

Late on Tuesday, 26 October, a male was arrested by a Campus 5-0 constable for obstructing a peace officer after he provided a false name and refused to identify himself. 5-0 was able to confirm his identity and he was found to have outstanding warrants for being unlawfully at large and had a lengthy record including a telephone.

The Edmonton Police Service was contacted and attended with Campus Security to take him into custody.

### HUB ACTIVITY

In the afternoon of Tuesday, 26 October, Campus 5-0 identified a male near the south end of the HUB Mall concourse while investigating a possible stolen vehicle in the area of the Butterdome. The male had been trespassed previously by 5-0 in 2003 and had an outstanding warrant.

The male who presented the bill was told that it was a fake and he requested to have it back. He declined the employee's offer to town in the area for the arrival of Campus 5-0 to verify the authenticity of the bill.

5-0 would like to identify the male in this incident, he is described as having short black hair and wearing a black

bomber jacket with horizontal stitching.

### WHEELCHAIR JOY-RIDER STOPPED IN HIS TRACKS

At around 3am on Thursday, 28 October, a male in a hospital wheelchair with open liquor was stopped in the area of 112 Street and 87 Avenue. He was found to have no University of Alberta affiliation and a criminal record for violence.

He was escorted from the property, his liquor was disposed of, and the wheelchair was returned to the hospital.

### FAKE DOLLAR BILLZ, Y'ALL

In the afternoon of Wednesday, 27 October, a counterfeit \$20 bill was passed to a Sobe merchant. The bill was checked under a UV light by a quick-thinking employee and it was determined to be suspect.

The male who presented the bill was told that it was a fake and he requested to have it back. He declined the employee's offer to town in the area for the arrival of Campus 5-0 to verify the authenticity of the bill.

5-0 would like to identify the male in this incident, he is described as having

short black hair and wearing a black

bomber jacket with horizontal stitching.

### WRONG PLACE AT THE WRONG TIME

At about 2:30am on Thursday, 28 October, 5-0 identified a male in the area of 110 Street and 87 Avenue. The male was intoxicated and it was discovered that he had an outstanding warrant. He was arrested and released to the Edmonton Police Service. The male is a current student at the University of Alberta.

### CHEECH AND CHONG COUGH UP THEIR STASH

At around 9:30pm on Thursday, 28 October, Campus Security observed a group of four people on the east side of the LRT station and the faint smell of drugs. Two of the males had been dealt with by 5-0 before and had criminal records involving violence and property-related offenses. A small amount of drugs was voluntarily turned over, and no charges are pending.

None of the people involved in the incident are affiliated in any way with the University of Alberta.

### POT PLUCKED FROM POOR PUTZ

In the early morning of Friday, 29 October, a male at the Powerplant was questioned by Campus 5-0 constables after he was observed to be holding what appeared to be a small bag of white powder. The bag contained a small amount of marijuana.

No charges were laid in the incident and the drugs were disposed of.

### KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN

Campus 5-0 is asking for assistance in identifying a male who has been seen in the area of the Powerplant over the past couple of weeks.

He is identified as Caucasian with a tattoo on his neck. Please call Campus Security immediately if you see him on campus.

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## STREETERS

*Compiled and photographed  
by Ross Moroz and James Storie*

Monday, a group of second and third-grade students visited the *Gateway* offices. We decided to get their opinion on the upcoming American election.

### Who would you pick to be president of the USA?



Kathleen Pick  
Garneau School  
Grade II

I would pick the person who invented television, because I like TV, and I think there would probably be more TV if he was the president.



Piper Zbryski-  
Livingston  
Garneau School  
Grade II

The guy on your shirt. [The T-shirt featured Chinese revolutionary leader Mao Tse-Tung]. He had some good ideas, but he took them too far.



Ella Forgie  
Garneau School  
Grade II

I would vote for the guy who invented newspapers, because newspapers are important. People need to hear about what's going on.



Nichola  
Hildebrand  
Garneau School  
Grade III

I would vote for nobody. Everyone knows young people don't vote.



**BREAST MEN** Delta Chi raised money for breast cancer by wearing bras.

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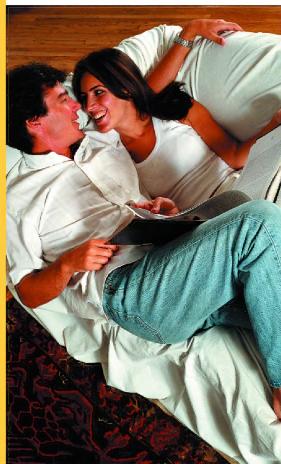
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## Media attend event despite low student turnout

**PARADE • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

The Students' Union sent the Premier an advanced copy of the invitation prior to the event, but he was scheduled to be out of town on Friday.

Nevertheless, the parade continued in his absence, with a small group of student participants bearing signs with statistics about student debt and government investment in postsecondary education.

Haley Pinto, SU campus campaigns coordinator, said she'd been hoping for a good turnout at the event.

"[The parade] is a way to get media attention and attention to the general public on the issue of postsecondary education, and to make it in a non-threatening way for students to be involved," she said.

Despite the low turnout, the parade attracted media from three different media outlets in the city to the Legislature grounds, and Blatz was not phased that large amounts of students

did not attend the SU event.

"The parade may be small, it may be large, but the important thing is that we get attention for such an important issue like postsecondary education, so that we can build on the momentum that's already there and make this one of the, if not the biggest, issue in the election," he explained.

According to Erin Chrush, the Students' Union's advocacy director, the main goal of events like this one is awareness. She urged students to become involved with the SU's recently-launched Universities Matter campaign.

"I hope that students will recognize this as an opportunity to get involved in advocacy for postsecondary funding in a positive manner," Chrush said.

"It's not negative; really, it's a call to action, a challenge to the government, and I hope that students recognize that's what it is," she said.

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## Rural lifestyle idealized: U of A prof

TASNEEM KARBANI  
News Writer

The thought of farm life often conjures images of an ideal family, like Laura Ingalls Wilder's homesteader heroes in *The Little House on the Prairie*. But the commonly held belief that rural communities nurture good moral values is becoming a rather contentious notion, said U of A history professor Dr Paul Voisey.

This Thursday, 4 November, Voisey will give a lecture on campus entitled "Rural degeneracy in the United States: tales of agrarian perversion, deformity and depravity from 1920 to 1980."

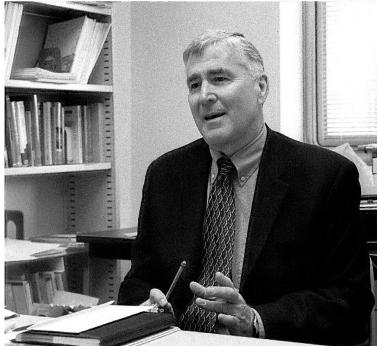
The lecture will explore contradictory attitudes towards rural life in the US. The "myth of agrarian idealism" has portrayed agrarian life as providing a wholesome foundation for tight-knit families and communities with good work ethics, discipline, and religious values. Voisey, however, isn't convinced that this was the case, and explains that a school of thought has emerged which questions this idea.

"There has been a group of writers and scholars who have taken this agrarian ideal and smashed it to pieces. They've kind of inverted it and argued exactly the opposite," said Voisey.

He explained that these academics have considered rural communities more degenerate than moral.

"In this kind of vision you get barbarianism, inbreeding, mental retardation, physical retardation, completely immoral behaviour, and perverse sexual activity. The degenerate hillbilly image is one of [these] kinds of visions," Voisey said.

He is interested in the paradox that arises between these two standpoints,



JAMES LEUNG

### THE MYTH OF THE NOBLE HICK

Dr Voisey debunks the idealism of rural life.  
and will address the reasons this opposition has appeared amidst the more nostalgic view towards farmers. Voisey also hopes to examine what this opposing argument means and its implications for society.

In the lecture, Voisey hopes to draw on material he has collected from novels on rural life, views of academics from the 1920s onwards, film, and television.

Voisey is curious to see who will attend the lecture from outside of his department. He feels the topic is interesting in today's context because of the images society typically associates with agrarian communities. Voisey believes his research may help explain the reasons society esteems rural life and the effects of this ideology on societal morality.

"There's really two approaches: there's the nostalgic view that we have to see rural communities disappear, farm communities are wonderful, and it's a shame that farmers are declining and economically can't make it," Voisey said.

"On the other hand, there's this vision of [farmers] as being completely backward and primitive."

Although Voisey says that the lecture might not be of immediate use, he explains that history can help solve current problems of society.

"History is one way to try to sort out present circumstances. If you don't understand the way the world is now, one way you can go about it is to figure out how the world got this way, and that's often the value for present day applications."

## HOT NEWS TIP? STORY IDEA?

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## No budget for modem pool, says CNS

MODERN • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Those services that are critical to teaching, learning and research, such as WebCT (e-learning), e-mail, network and infrastructure, and the telephone system, must have sufficient resources directed at them, she argued.

With an annual budget of just over \$13 million in 2004/05, of which \$75,000 would be needed to maintain the modem pool, CNS said it needed to prioritize. With only 100 staff and 800 to 900 students using the service, the modem pool was deemed expendable, explained Bourque.

Faculty and staff members lost their modem service on 1 October, 2004. For those faculty and staff who do not have computer access at home, kiosks were set up on campus after discussions between CNS, the Non-Academic Staff Association, and the Association of Academic Staff, said Bourque.

Students will continue to enjoy free access until 1 January, 2005, when a subscription service will be implemented. It will be solely cost-recovery, and each student will have to pay \$50 for service from January to August, and \$75 per year for service thereafter. If 1000 students do not subscribe to the service by January and cost-recovery cannot be maintained, the service will not be continued after August, according to the CNS website.

"This is obviously not the ideal situation. I think that ideally it should remain free. But, the fact is our operating budget is drastically underfunded and basically it came down to CNS having to decide how they are going to allocate their money... At least by going to cost-recovery the service will still be maintained at some level," said McLaughlin.



JAMES LEUNG

**SOLONG, WEB** Lisa McLaughlin mourns the loss of the CNS modem pool.

"It's about \$6.25 a month, which is still less than what most other Internet service providers would be offering."

The modem pool has been in place for the past 32 years. Originally designed to allow researchers to access the mainframe computer, it was gradually expanded to include free internet access to the entire University community.

"Now that we have more services going online, the University needs to be aware of accessibility issues for students to access services like

course materials, library materials, registration, and textbook lists," said McLaughlin.

Bourque acknowledged the importance of accessibility, but stressed the difficulty of CNS's situation.

"I am always concerned with reduced accessibility for students to any activity that impacts their learning. However, in order to maintain our essential services and our focus on core technologies, the best we can do is to offer this service to students on a cost-recovery basis," Bourque said.



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# OPINION

opinion@gatewayualberta.ca • tuesday, 2 november, 2004

## Klein's AISh misstep soon to be forgotten

LAST WEEK, RALPH KLEIN unceremoniously declared his contempt for those receiving government assistance. And while this isn't a brand-new phenomenon—who can forget the Herb Jameson Centre mishap?—it's almost guaranteed to be forgotten before Albertans hit the polls.

Recently, at a PC function, Premier Klein recalled a story of an encounter with two recipients of Assured Income for the Severely Disabled (AISh). They pushed a button with him, it seemed, in asking him for more than the measly \$800 a month they were receiving at the time. But, as they were not in wheelchairs or attached to IVs, our brilliant premier determined that they were not, in fact, severely disabled, and that they were simply sounding off the system.

Now, it doesn't take a poorly-educated guy to know that there are many kinds of disabilities. Not all people with severe disabilities are as such. Not everyone with multiple sclerosis or Parkinson's or leukemia, for instance, would necessarily look as if they had such conditions. Schizophrenia and other forms of chronic mental illness, for instance, are not detectable with the naked eye. Only a doctor is certified to make such judgments, not our ignorant premier.

Yet, while some communities are up in arms over his nasty comments, it will not last. This is a man who routinely tells off reporters for grilling him on issues, knowing that it will be caught on camera, and that Albertans will see him behaving hostilely on television. This is an arrogance we should not accept from our leaders: they are responsible to us, and the media is entirely right to hold politicians to their word. We should demand that they do, and our politicians should answer questions out of fear of appearing to dodge the issues. Klein should be concerned that Albertans will suspect him of trying to pull the wool over our eyes, yet he clearly is not.

In three weeks we will go to the polls and the AISh mishap will be forgotten—sure, it may be added fodder to any liberal's criticism of the government, but the public-at-large will forget, as we always seem to do.

Why? Because we are Albertans. Those who do vote vote for dynasties—we like our rulers arrogant, and we like them common. Rather than voting for someone who could be our intellectual better, we choose someone with a poor education. He's got "spunk," so we let him keep on keeping on. Klein is our Everyman, and we vote him in again and again and again. Those of us who do not see Klein's poor performance as sufficient will show up to the polls in small numbers, but most will be too angry or apathetic to bother.

Come 22 November, Klein will resume his seat on the throne, and provided that his political handlers don't rein him in a bit, he will continue to do and say as he pleases as we continue to let him off the hook. The hope for anyone in this province who identified as liberal is that next year, when he has worn out his welcome in office, a more accountable leader will finally step up to bat. I'm counting down the months.

CAITLIN CRAWSHAW  
News Editor

## Vote Bush for hilarity

AS WRONG AS THIS SEEMS, I can't help but feel in the deepest, darkest recesses of my soul that I wouldn't mind seeing George W Bush win. It's not that I like the man, mind you—Bush is, quite simply, the worst president in modern times, and I could think of few world leaders less capable of dealing effectively with the issues facing us today.

But, at the same time, I am kind of interested to see just how far the world could spiral out of control if Bush was elected. I mean, he spent his first term imposing mad fiscal and dragging America into oblivion, and he still had to face the electorate. Can you imagine what would happen if he could act without worrying about getting re-elected? He'd probably invade Canada, or nuke Al-Jazeera or something else crazy. Who knows, maybe he'll declare himself emperor. It would be fantastic, even if it would mark the end of civilization as we know it.

DAVID BERRY  
Opinion Editor

## LETTERS

### NSSA responds to Paul Owen

Last Tuesday, 26 October, I was stopped in SUL by a fellow Native studies student and asked if I'd seen that day's edition of the Gateway. When I told her I hadn't yet, she showed me an opinion piece written by Paul Owen. The piece itself was titled "Tuition tax about equality?"

I cannot say I was shocked—I'd expected at least one such piece after the 20 October news story about indigenous students being taxed on tuition ("Aboriginal students to be taxed for tuition"). What struck me particularly after an illuminating class and discussion with Dr James Dempsey, are the basic factual errors in both pieces:

In the primary news piece, Cosanna Preston made mention of Aboriginal students enjoying "free and untaxed tuition" in the past. This is a mistake that has followed around many Aboriginal students over the decades. Free, as defined by Webster's *Unabridged Dictionary*, means "Without charge; as, children admitted free." Without charge. This simply means that no one pays. Do Aboriginal students receive free education? No more than a student whose parent foots the bill for tuition.

The University is still paid tuition, in the case of eligible (status) Aboriginal students, tuition is paid by the band. The band pays tuition, parents pay tuition. Does anyone see a similarity here? If tuition were truly "free," the University would receive no funds from anyone at all—and you can bet that they would have something to say about that! Owen states that taxation is a step towards equality, that when the indigenous peoples of Canada were colonized they became subject to British laws and rules. He also states, in the fifth paragraph, that Aboriginals became "part of Canadian society by their own choice."

It was my understanding that by nature of the word "colonization" it is impossible that the colonized are so by choice. Colonization is an act of force and power, if by "their own choice" Mr Owen means the signatures on the treaties, then I worry over his interpretation of Canadian history.

The treaties were not conceived as a way for all Aboriginal peoples to become full citizens—they were papers signed to ensure John A. Macdonald got his precious railroad through the prairies. They were signed by people who were enduring starvation and thought that this was the best available possibility at the time. I have yet to see where, in any of the treaties, it says that as a result of the signing that Aboriginals were becoming Canadian citizens.

Mr Owen is also under the belief that the treaties were an act of protection on behalf of the government to ensure that Native peoples and cultures were protected, and that Aboriginals were safeguarded against assimilation. This indicates to me that Paul Owen has never read a treaty. For, while they make grand promises to the effect that freedom of religion and life is ensured, which was later nullified by the Indian Act, they also mention that farming and



agricultural equipment was to be provided, so that nomadic nations could settle down in a "civilized" manner and become farmers, like their white neighbours.

Paul Owen defends himself from attacks of ethnocentrism by invoking the "sins of the father" clause—he claims that a child shouldn't be considered a murderer simply because his parents were. Using this logic, Mr Owen says that his tax money should not pay for what his ancestors did.

Dr Dempsey made an excellent point that will bring up here. That is, if the child of criminal parents is still, later in life, benefiting from the crimes his ancestors committed, he is also not then culpable? Paul Owen, and everyone else in this country who is non-Native, still benefits from the actions of forefathers.

A friend of mine from a women's studies class once said that one of the things she had learned in university was that every single privilege we had, from the right to vote to the right to attend school, was built on the blood of others.

Our country, that we claim so much pride in, was built on blood and lies. That we still live here and claim its "freedoms" means that we still benefit from the sins of our fathers. We, in non-Native society, will always have that stain on our collective unconscious.

ROBIN LIGHT  
Vice-President Communications  
Native Studies' Student Association

### Native people do not get 'special privileges'

This letter is in response to Paul Owen's article, "Tuition tax about equality" (26 October). First of all, to claim that Canada is providing "special privileges" to Native people "based on culture" is absurd. The treaties are legally binding and internationally recognized contracts between your "ancient predecessor" and Native people.

For two nations to coexist without conflict, a treaty needs to be

established to secure peaceful relations. When colonizers wanted to purchase land from the Native people, the two parties worked out a contract that stipulated what benefits would be provided in exchange for the use of the land. The contract outlining the terms of the treaty was finalized and both parties signed the treaty.

Several years passed and the Native people grew impatient with the colonizers' failure to provide the benefits. The Native people then addressed their concerns to the colonizers, to no avail. Rather, to their surprise, the colonizers unilaterally imposed many restrictions that limited their ability to be Native. Many years went by and unbelievable atrocities persisted where one can only assume that approval was granted through indifference.

Unfortunately for the colonizers, the Native people survived and continue to move forward, seeking justice. The terms of the contract need to be dealt with because justice has no choice but to heed to the historical agreement between the two sovereign nations.

In essence, Mr Owen, you were born into an agreement when you became a Canadian citizen and part of your inheritance is a fiduciary obligation. The "handouts" are ramifications that have to be honoured. I, too, would like to live in a society where all citizens are treated equally. But to single out the Native people is not the way to address this problem. For one thing, you are only perpetuating the negative stereotypes that continue to plague Native people. But I guess it is not your fault you feel the way you do. Ignorance knows no boundaries.

CURTIS MANDEVILLE  
Edmonton, Alberta

### Owen needs a history lesson

Unfortunately, I am afraid that Paul Owen's article regarding "equality" reflects the ignorance of average Canadians to anything relating to

Native issues. Mr Owen seems to be confused about a number of important facts. One is that treaties were signed to "prevent indigenous cultures from being fully assimilated into those of the newcomers." The Indian Act, the reserve system and treaties exist for the purpose of assimilating indigenous cultures, not protecting them.

Further, treaties have nothing to do with compensation. Most are land deals that were signed with the intent of removing the inhabitants of the land to make way for settlers. Regardless of the equity or validity of them, the phrase "forever" is part of the legal context of these deals, thus the reason why "today's generation [is] having to compensate for what people did 200 years ago."

It is laughable that somehow the idea of a land deal can be twisted into being compensation for past crimes. The Government of Canada has not begun to compensate for what happened 200 years ago, let alone acknowledge the devastating impacts that assimilation policies have had within our parents' and our own lifetimes.

When our ancestors moved onto land of the First Nations of Canada, they agreed to live by the treaties, just as they agreed to live by the laws of the land. You were right about one thing Mr Owen: Native people should be treated just like everybody else. They should have access to benefits promised to them by the government, without being judged, stereotyped or attacked by the ignorant. Rather than feeling as if you are somehow personally compensating for the past, you should be honoured to uphold the deal that let you live on this land in the first place. We (non-Natives) are all immigrants here who have unwittingly benefited from the attempt of the Canadian government to assimilate or eliminate Native peoples.

The least you could do is pick up a book and learn some history. Better yet, take a Native studies class.

CARMEN GUSTAFSON  
ENCS V

PLEASE SEE MORE LETTERS • PAGE 8

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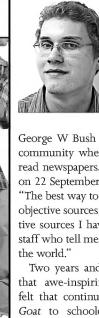
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ROB  
FURSHEWICZ

George W Bush outraged the literate community when he said he doesn't read newspapers. As a matter of fact, on 22 September of this year he said, "The best way to get the news is from objective sources, and the most objective sources I have are people on my staff who tell me what's happening in the world."

Two years and eleven days before that awe-inspiring statement, Bush felt that continuing to read *My Pet Goat* to schoolchildren was more important than exiting the school, a possible target for further attack, and actually behaving like the strong, decisive, courageous leader Americans are told he is. He didn't respond to 11 September the right way; rather, he continued reading *My Pet Goat*.

In contrast with Bush, Democratic candidate John Kerry is an avid reader. As a matter of fact, the 14 October PBS *Frontline* showed footage of his Senate office. A pile of books was on Kerry's desk; the top one was *It Can't Happen Here*, a 1935 Sinclair Lewis novel depicting a simploton who uses religious rhetoric and partisan media to push a fascistic, authoritarian takeover of the US.

Cynics argue that the plot of the book mirrors what is happening in the US

today. For the sake of political stability, Kerry would never say out loud that he sees today's current political situation in the US as an echo of the book, but it might have been a subtle hint.

**Imagine the outrage amongst punditry and weak-kneed moderates if Kerry brought up a 70-year-old satire to compare with the current climate, musing that Bush was that authoritarian simploton utilizing religious rhetoric and partisan media to take over America.**

Imagine the outrage amongst punditry and weak-kneed moderates if Kerry brought up a 70-year-old satire to compare with the current climate, musing that Bush was that authoritarian simploton utilizing religious rhetoric and partisan media to take over America.

Howard Dean, a former contender for leader of the Democratic party, was crucified for suggesting that America just might not be safer with the invasion of Iraq. Most now admit this is true, but American media can be devastating to any soul willing to go against the grain of conventional thought.

John Kerry has *It Can't Happen Here* at the top of his booklist; it was visible to the public in video footage he allowed PBS to air. Perhaps Kerry, like some Americans, feels that America is edging closer towards fascism. Or maybe he just had the wrong book on the wrong pile at the wrong time.

Whatever he feels, he won't use his metaphorical comparisons between Berzelius Windrip and George W Bush on the campaign trail. With America's two-party system, the leaders of each respective party must present themselves as cautiously as possible to maintain maximum chunks of the mainstream vote. You can't do that by becoming a nutty leftist or pessimistic purveyor of literary metaphors.

Whatever the case, a few things are clear. Kerry possesses books, which he reads, or at least stacks up into piles in his office, and at least one of these books is, as Merriam-Webster puts it, "a cautionary tale about the rise of fascism in the United States."

That's comfort enough for those wondering whether a John Kerry presidency would really be different than a George W Bush one. However, if it was a subtle hint, it was a little too subtle. Perhaps Kerry's just reading a book for shits and giggles, and I'm making a pretty f\*\*\* over nothing. After all, it's been four years since I've been exposed to a leader of the free world that reads more than newspaper headlines.

But, either way, I think we can all agree that having an American president that actually reads would be a pretty happy ending.



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We all know that politicians lie—after all, as most people would agree, it's their job. But when did this start, and when did we become so complacent about it? Politicians are supposed to be our representatives, our policy-makers, our leaders. We're supposed to be able to rely on them to do what's best for all of us. Of course, every leader can be trusted, but we live in a democracy, damn it. Ironically, however, it's precisely because of democracy that our politicians can't be trusted.

Democracy is not about political leadership, vision, education, expertise, or any of those things that would ideally accompany good government. Instead, it is—or, at least, has become—about winning elections, plain and simple.

Once elected, there is little obligation for our politicians to follow up on anything they promised to do during their term. Like an underachieving pro athlete in the final year of his lucrative contract, politicians have simply to please the people in the weeks leading up to the election, telling them what they want to hear and making them forget everything else.

Although such behaviour has been rampant of late in Canadian politics, we need look no further than the visionless, muddling affair that has been the American election to see a current, relevant example of this in action. To the impartial, level-headed observer—that is, someone who doesn't live in the US—George W Bush getting re-elected would be like Milli Vanilli winning the "Lifetime

achievement" Grammy. And yet, lo and behold, here he is with a narrow margin in most polls over contender John Kerry.

When Bush, hot off the heels of his narrow, technically-based "victory," took to the pilot's seat of America, he drove its nose toward the ground like a Japanese Kamikaze pilot and hasn't looked back. Four years later, after recklessly carpet-bombing and generally making a mess out of two Middle Eastern countries, evaporating hundreds of thousands of jobs back home, racking up a deficit that's 3.5 per cent of the GDP, inciting terrorism and the fear of more to come, neglecting his country's domestic social issues, and many more things too numerous to mention, his popularity has somehow gone up since the day he won the last election.

This is because Bush and his team of spin doctors are able to make voters forget about all the bad and have focused instead on appealing to their values, emotions, and fears. He knows the general population is fairly oblivious to current domestic and world affairs, and has for the most part avoided advocating his own policies, ideologies, and platform, opting

instead to scare people out of voting for his opponent, John Kerry, on the other hand, rather than taking up a condescending, elevated position against Bush, decided to join in the mud-slinging fun, even though it clearly isn't his game. Kerry, who appeals to the educated populace, should have planted his feet firmly in opposition to Bush, but has instead chased him around the playground, throwing sand, kicking up controversy, and lowering his own credibility.

We shouldn't be too surprised if Bush wins this election. It's the last thing America needs, but it may well happen nonetheless. Then again, there might be enough sense left in the people of America to elect Kerry, because he's John Kerry per se, but because he's not George W Bush. Regardless of who wins, it will be because of the ad hominem attacks launched at the other candidate and not because of any particularly strong vision for America and its people.

In other words, the winning candidate will not necessarily be the best or most qualified political leader, but simply the best manipulator of public opinion. And a popularity contest is no basis for a system of government.

"family safe" Halloween locales like West Edmonton Mall, and leave poor shrimps like me waiting at my door for trick-or-treaters who never show up.

So into the sack with you Halloween. You were a lot more fun before you sold out like Christmas did.

SCOTT C BOURGEOIS

**THE BURLAP  
SACK**

Ah, Halloween. The scary costumes, the smiling children, the sweet, sweet candy. Isn't it grand? Well it was until someone went and ruined it all, damn it.

Maybe it's a sign of our times, but it seems to me that no one really actually trusts their neighbours enough to let their kids out to go door to door anymore. Now everyone just goes to



The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered.

# Piledrivers, cage matches and ballot boxes

The presidential election belongs at the next Wrestlemania, tights and all

RAMIN  
OSTAD

Judgment day is finally here. A battle that has raged for many months, with many twists and turns, will culminate tonight. In the left corner, in blue tights, stands an underdog, more mystery than man; he hides behind a fog of ambiguity. In the right corner, in red shorts, a take-no-prisoners man of action; he gets the job done at any cost, and will accept nothing less than victory. Tonight, these men will face each other in a no-holds-barred match, both fighting with all their hearts to become Champion of the World.

If you haven't seen through my ridiculously thin metaphor yet, you should probably stop reading, because it's only going to get thicker.

This allegory works so well for two reasons, the first of which being that, like any feud-ending wrestling match, tonight's election feels like the zenith of a six-month-long dick fight.

The second reason this election reminds me of wrestling is because a couple weeks ago, the WWE held a Pay-Per-View event called *Taboo Tuesday* wherein the audience was allowed to vote online for the wrestlers they would most like to see go up against different champions, and the stipulations for those matches.

Now, as everyone over the age of ten knows, wrestling is rigged. The results of the matches are always decided backstage, which means the audience may have voted for the match type, but they sure as hell didn't vote for a legitimate chance of

dealt a crippling blow to the liberal viewpoint. Or at least it would have if Kerry had talked about something other than tax breaks, statistics, and a vague idea of how he would handle the war in Iraq. While these things may be important, the thought crossing most people's minds as they decide who to vote for will probably be: "Sure, we may have a draft if we re-elect Bush ... but I'm not sure if Kerry really earned those Purple Hearts."

**This allegory works so well for two reasons, the first of which being that, like any feud-ending wrestling match, tonight's election feels like the zenith of a six-month-long dick fight.**

their horse winning. The same goes for the United States election: as we saw in 2000, the game can easily be rigged. The citizens aren't voting for who they would like to be president; they're voting for someone else to make that decision for them, which is appropriate, considering 40 per cent of America still thinks Saddam caused 11 September.

Heck, I'd be more afraid if the game wasn't rigged at this point. Let's just hope they simplified the ballots this year.

But, homoerotic fighting aside, the sad fact is neither one of these morons deserves to be president. On the one hand, you have a weak liberal sap who, in my view, didn't win the debates, and it's a little difficult to lose a debate when your opponent is a dunce.

If Kerry really wanted to prove that he has a take-no-crap attitude, he should have lashed off at the time Bush was a flip-flopper instead of confusing the public with numbers, forcing them into voting for Bush because most of them can no longer even understand simple math.

On the other hand, you have a despicable nightmare who sees black gold everywhere he goes. His manipulation of the media, the judicial system, foreign policy, and the American people has gone unchecked for so long he has actually made Saddam Hussein seem somewhat like a martyr. I think it's safe to say that, no matter who wins this election, it's a lost cause on either side.

When it comes right down to it, all we can really do hope that, by 2008, we'll finally smell what the Rock is cooking for foreign policy and the economy.

## Keep it short: less is more

GRAHAM  
LETTNER

world noun, step back, think, "less is more," and pick a cold, crisp term to use in its place. Short and sweet: that is what will please the ear. Drawn out, oft-used verbs and nouns get as much love as a gloved check-up from your doctor.

If you can say (or write) it in less, then by all means, give it a go. Those who read your spilt might now have a chance to make it to its end and just might take ashine to it.

As well, your TA will be pleased with less lines to mark, and the "man" who checks your works in lieu of their life in print won't have to clip the odd phrase just to make space.

And lest our minds lose track of it, there is still a great chance to place a word or two that still can dodge the grasp of run-of-the-mill sense. Though they lack length, your mates might still miss the boat on the gist of this quick list: schlep, trite, quip, prig, slake and cowl.

Poke fun at them and save breath; what more can you ask for?

In my mind, it would be a blast of fresh air if we all could draw a deep breath, calm our minds, and take notice that to have a point heard, quick and curt might be the way to go.

How about a stop sign, "Do not pass Go," or "Twist off"? We are all adults; we can sort a few things out in our heads. And if not, all the grown-up words in the world won't help make things more clear-cut.

So I would say give a go to crisp, clear style. It may just be the hard right turn your prose needs. And if you're no good with words to start with, at the very least it will leave more space in print for those who are.

## LET'S SPEND THE NIGHT TOGETHER.

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MORELETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

**Owen still wrong, even on this page**

I'm writing this in response to "Tuition tax at equality" (26 October). Let me get your facts straight, Paul Owen. As a University student, you should be smart enough to do a little research before forming an opinion and writing about something you don't understand. First of all, it was not a few hundred years ago that Canada "gained control" over my ancestral land. That never happened. What took place was First Nations people being hospitable enough to welcome and prevent the newcomers from starvation and certain death. Once trust was established, the callous Europeans took advantage and signed contracts with the First Nations under false pretenses and never honoured them. Those contracts were the treaties.

The "benefits" of the treaty that my great-ancestor signed cannot be taken away. Those treaties were set up to allow non-First Nations access to our lands in exchange for such "benefits" or "human rights" as health and education.

There was not a single treaty signed under the premise of preventing assimilation, because that was never an issue discussed with the First Nations at the time of the signing. The treaties were signed as nation to nation, and are binding in international and national courts of law. So yes, what took place just over a hundred years ago still affects the First Nations today as treaty and status Indians.

And yes, I agree with your statement that "Canada has done a poor job of treating its own inhabitants as equal." Since contact, First Nations have never been treated equally, fairly or even humanely. Today, they are faced with sub-standard housing, high crime and suicide rates, high infant mortality rates, and high rates of disease. So, the small attempt to help by providing us with an untaxed education is not even close to remedying the past or making our lives better as First Nations. And let's not forget that First Nations make up less than two per cent of the population of Canada and only a very small percentage of those people will pursue postsecondary education.

MAGNOLIA UNKA  
Native Studies IV

**'Plant meal cards finally give Lister some choice'**

It sounds to me like Mr. Hoosin hasn't ever eaten in an Aramark cafeteria ("Meal cards have no place in the 'Plant," 26 October). I invite Mr. Hoosin to eat in the Lister cafeteria with me—I'll even pay.

Cafeteria food isn't the best quality, so you'll pass, I bet. Now picture yourself in my situation, Mr. Business Major. Canada has rules and laws in place to abolish monopolies and enhance competition in the marketplace, except in residence halls. We are forced to spend a minimum of \$180 a year on meal plans, where we are forced to eat the food you would rather not eat. This is my cheapest option.

Do you have an extra \$2000 lying around for a meal plan? Because most of

us don't. Come to think of it, for us "other students," many of us have jobs just to pay for our meal cards, and continue to contribute to the Aramark juggernaut. The fact that we can now use our meal cards at the Plant opens up a world of opportunity for us, and the Plant Lister is home to 1800 students. Many of us love the Plant's food, but can't afford to eat there. Eighteen-hundred-some-odd students can now eat at the Powerplant. That's a huge influx in capital pouring into the Plant.

But that capital shouldn't be allowed because some people won't tip. Maybe these waitresses will make better wages now that there are many more people eating there. To say this business opportunity is not good for the Plant, or the servers because some Listers don't tip is stupid, and makes me assume you got your degree in marketing.

Last time I ate in RATTI, I left a tip with my mealcard. So I guess some of us do Go figure.

Last time I checked, some of the cheapest people here use debit cards so they don't have to deal with loose change, let alone tipping as well. To say I almost don't tip because of meal cards is almost as stupid as Bush saying they are doing a good job in Iraq.

JOHN CAMPAGGI  
Political Science III

**Sudan and midterms not comparable**

In response to Chelsey Grimby's article "Sudanese children wouldn't mind a midterm" (26 October), I must heartily disagree.

Not even heartily. I absolutely disagree with Grimby's assertion that Sudanese children wouldn't mind writing a midterm. While I agree that by comparison my lifestyle is relatively stress-free to that of a Sudanese refugee, guiltling me for feeling midterm stress incomparable to that of the stress Sudanese refugees live under is asinine. I seriously doubt that anyone in Sudan would really like to be scavenging for food, escaping rape and murder by the militia, and studying for a philosophy midterm.

If Ms. Grimby wants to raise awareness about the situation in Sudan and the inaction on behalf of the United Nations that is not stopping this mass murder from happening, there are much more convincing ways of doing so than telling me I shouldn't feel stressed because bombs aren't dropping on my house. I'm not trying to downplay the seriousness of the plight of the refugees. Nor am I disagreeing with the argument made about wanting bureaucratic efficiency in the UN; I just say that because horrible things like this happen, I'm not going to put down my books and pens and do nothing but worry about Sudan. That would accomplish nothing for me, and nothing for Sudan.

NEIL GRAY  
Arts II

*Letters to the editor should be e-mailed to opinion@getaway.ualberta.ca.*

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature. Letters should be less than 350 words, unless they're about Paul Owen.

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**Canada a land of equality, so long as you're not Aboriginal**

KIRK  
ZEMBAL

though, as far as we're concerned poor conditions on Aboriginal reservations all over the country today don't exist. In Canada, we don't have the magnitude of disparity between races like the US does, and we don't have segregated communities or race-specific government policies—except in regard to our First Nations.

**In Canada, people can say hurtful things towards Aboriginal peoples and still consider themselves open-minded.**

In the US, African-Americans are hugely over-represented in prison, and in Canada there is the same phenomenon with Aboriginals, yet we still see racism as a problem associated with immigration—for instance, the media talk about Asian gangs or problems with Muslims.

But we fail to see the lowest earners, the lowest life expectancies, the highest suicide rates, the highest alcohol abuse, the highest drug use and the depression that plagues our Aboriginal communities. For Canadians, whenever someone mentions racism, we still immediately think of blacks versus whites, or Hispanics, Muslims or Asians. Now, I

would never say that we've solved our problems with any racial segment of the population, nor would I ever trivialize anyone's struggle. However, in today's Canadian society it is much more likely to see a visible minority other than an Aboriginal become a prominent member of our communities. We won't see very many Aboriginal doctors or lawyers in our future if present attitudes are maintained, either. In Canada, people can say hurtful things towards Aboriginal peoples and still consider themselves open-minded.

Whereas Americans are hostile and often very open with their racism—witness race riots and the KKK—we Canadians are passive-aggressive; we go about destroying an entire culture while acting as if nothing is wrong. And our way will be worse in the long run, because until we are willing to acknowledge our faults, we can never change. This protein will only get worse as the Aboriginal population in Canada increases at three times the rate of the general population. What kind of future can Aboriginals expect when we continue to treat them as we do?

We simply cannot deny that Canadians are racist when we see the despair that we've forced upon Aboriginals in this country. We deny them jobs, deny them friendship, deny them respect, deny them hope, and we still call ourselves tolerant. Even they deny them a ride when they have their thumb out.

**Elected Senate is one thing Klein has right**

ADAM  
SNIDER

It's very rare that I agree with Ralph Klein and his Conservative cronies. In fact, I'm fairly certain that the grand total number of times I've agreed with the Alberta Conservatives up to now is zero. But the fact that I now find myself agreeing with the Klein government's decision to endorse six senators-in-waiting means that there really is a first time for everything.

Before I'm accused of being something as fitly as a Ralph Klein supporter, let me clarify that it's not so much the fact that these senators-in-waiting are running under the Conservative banner that has me agreeing with Klein. It's merely the fact that I, like King Ralph, am in favour of an elected Senate.

As it stands now, senators are appointed by the Governor General, based on the recommendations of the prime minister. Of course, since the Governor General is as much a figurehead as the monarch she represents, this means that senators are effectively appointed by the prime minister.

Additionally, with more public support, the Senate would be less hesitant to use its power, again making the Senate more relevant and effective.

Despite the benefits of an elected

Senate—fairer representation of the provinces and more relevance and effectiveness—there are problems that need to be addressed should the Canadian Senate ever become an elected body, not the least of which is the fact that the Senate can effectively veto any non-financial bill by perpetually sending it back to the House of Commons for "further review."

As it stands, the Senate rarely acts to block bills. However, if the Senate was comprised of elected members, the odds that senators would vote to block a bill they deemed unfavourable to the region they represented would be dramatically increased. The problem here is that—in addition to the possibility that the principle of responsible government could be somewhat undermined—the government's ability to pass legislation could be seriously restricted, especially if there was ever a situation in which the majority of the Senate was comprised of members of the opposition parties. It is unlikely that any bills would be passed into law if there was a Liberal majority in the Commons and a Conservative majority in the Senate, for example.

Once problems such as this are addressed, however, an elected Senate would prove both more effective and more responsive to the people it is supposed to represent. Now, if you'll excuse me, I need a shower to rid myself of that dirty feeling that inevitably results from agreeing with the Klein government.

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# Orientation 2004: Welcome to the Jungle!

## A Look Back....

On September 6th and 7th, 564 volunteers, lead by a staff of 5, welcomed nearly 6000 new students to the University of Alberta campus. The new students came from high school, from other post secondary institutions, or were returning to university after a period of time off. Some were moving into Residence, others were living on their own for the first time, and some were living with their parents and adapting to the new university environment. Despite their differences, all of these students had one thing in common – they were all new to the University of Alberta. The mission of the Orientation program is to create a positive educational and personal experience for new University of Alberta students. The program seeks to successfully aid in the transition of new students into University life and integrate them into the University of Alberta campus and community. With the help of our 564 dedicated volunteers, Orientation 2004 was a huge success.



## To the New Students who Attended Orientation 2004:

By choosing to attend Orientation you have given yourself a great head start to being successful at the University of Alberta. We truly hope that you learned a few things from our presentations, as well as how to navigate the U of A campus and were made aware of all of the services that exist to help you succeed. Most of all, we hope that you had fun, and met a wonderful group of friends. Best of luck in the next year and welcome to the University of Alberta community!

## To the 564 Orientation Volunteers:

Orientation would not run in any way, shape, or form without the help of you all! Your dedication and enthusiasm is unparalleled and we cannot thank you enough, but we will try our best!

## A Thank You to the Presenters:

This year's presentations were amazing. We would like to thank all of the Presenters and Computer Session Coordinators for their hard work and dedication over the summer months. It's pretty impressive to see the wealth of creativity that can result from a room with 36 talented individuals. Once again, thank you OPs and CSCs for all of your commitment and for making Orientation 2004 a truly spectacular event.

## A Thank You to the Programs Assistants:

This year over thirty volunteers in kelp t-shirts worked hard to make Orientation run without a hitch. These volunteers are of course the OPAs! These wicked volunteers ran our information tents, handed out prizes, helped run registrations, and were the heart and soul of Patches and GUBA. We would like to thank all of the hard work and dedication of all the OPAs! We couldn't have done this without you!!

## A Thank You to the MUG Leaders:

We would like to thank the "Cool Blue" My Undergraduate Groups Leaders for all of their hard work. Each and every one of them put in many hours to make this year's MUGs program the huge success that it has become! However, their work is not finished yet, they still have the whole school year to inspire and help students in their first year. Thus, we should also thank them for all the work they are about to do, for they are all truly amazing volunteers.

## A Thank You to the Team Facilitators:

The Orientation Volunteer family starts with the Team Facilitators. The TFs helped recruit over 550 volunteers and sparked the energy for Orientation. Whenever we needed an extra hand you were always there to help get the job done. The 35 of you helped to create the excitement and the spirit that we all had during Orientation. We thank you for your 7 months of dedication and your leadership throughout the planning and days of Orientation.

## A Thank You to the Orientation Leaders:

We have always felt that Orientation Leaders have had a huge effect on the lives of new students. You show them the way and ease their worries. You give new students that extra confidence they need to succeed here. You make a difference. We want to thank all you OIs for your diverse knowledge, your enthusiasm and your devotion.

Have a great year and thanks again!

The Orientation Staff,

Norma Rodenburg, Transition Programs Manager  
Darsi Perusini, Orientation Programs Coordinator  
Wayne Poon, Orientation Volunteer Coordinator  
Drama Brown, Orientation Administrative Coordinator  
Peter Haggard, MUGs Coordinator





All Photos Courtesy of John Lin



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# SPORTS

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## Golden Bears on attack at Invitational

Despite missing two key players, Alberta nets two wins and a tough loss at annual basketball tournament to wrap up pre-season

CHRIS O'LEARY  
PAUL OWEN  
Sports Writers

Playing with an injury-depleted roster, the Golden Bears basketball squad looked impressive this weekend as they concluded their pre-season with a 2-1 record at the annual Edmonton Journal Golden Bear Invitational.

With all-star post Phil Sudol and, more recently, forward Scott Gordon sidelined by injuries, the Bears went at a disadvantage heading into the tournament. But they showcased their depth as numerous players stepped up in a pair of victories over the Concordia Stingers and Simon Fraser Clan.

The Bears opened the tournament Thursday night with a 93-85 win over the Stingers. Fifteen-year Bears guard Tyler Coston racked up 28 points and nine rebounds as Alberta held off a late Concordia run led by Yugoslavian guard Rastko Popovic, who hit six three-pointers as part of his team-high 24 points.

"I think this was very indicative of an early-season game," said Coston. "It was a little sloppy, we had some turnovers and we're still trying to figure out what works and what doesn't. Those stretches where we were hitting shots and on good runs, I think that's a piece of what we can do."

The next night, the Bears suffered a disappointing 73-63 loss to the Saskatchewan Huskies, who easily handled Simon Fraser on Thursday. A highlight reel-worthy alley-oop to forward Andrew Spagrud, last season's CIS rookie of the year, put Saskatchewan up 9-2 early and they wouldn't relinquish the lead.

The game was dominated by Saskatchewan until midway through the second half, when Alberta finally came to life behind the inspired play of third-year point guard Gavin Fedorak, who sparked a late Bears run that got them back within striking distance in the game's final minutes.

Shooting guard Mike Melnychuk took the reigns from Fedorak and got the Bears within a point of Saskatchewan, as he scored the majority of his eleven points in the second half. He also came up with a steal and found forward Paul

Marr, who missed an open look at a three-point shot that would have given Alberta the lead. The Bears got no closer to victory, as the cool-headed Spagrud dominated on both ends of the floor, leading the Huskies with 18 points, 14 rebounds and five steals.

After the tough loss, Melnychuk credited Fedorak for keeping the Bears competitive after a slow start to the game.

"Gavs came in and brought a lot of energy; he hit the open threes we needed to get back in the game and did a great job coming off the bench," he said.

Huskies head coach Greg Jockims was pleased by the win, but admitted that the Bears were hurt by the absences of Sudol and Gordon.

"I thought the young guys that played did a good job," he said. "But they're certainly a much better team with [Sudol and Gordon]."

Alberta finished up the tournament on Saturday with a 72-66 overtime win over the Clan. Centre Richard Bates made strides in getting the Bears' frontcourt some defensive attention. The second-year big man made it clear early that when the ball went down low, there was someone there who could pose a threat for Alberta. He led the Bears with 18 points and a game-high nine rebounds.

Simon Fraser came out sluggish, but Western Ontario transfer John MacIver brought the Clan roaring back into the game with a strong second-half performance. MacIver scored a flurry of baskets down the stretch and scored 17 points, but missed a mid-range jumper at the end of the second half that would have given the Clan a win.

Alberta came out aggressive in the extra frame, while the Clan seemed to run out of gas after their strong second half, only mustering seven points.

Bates' play gave the Bears an entirely different dynamic in Saturday's game, and Horwood seemed relieved to have one of his post players put up such strong numbers.

"That's the missing ingredient from [Friday's loss]," he said. "Last night they weren't worried about our posts so they wouldn't let our guards get open. It makes all the difference in the world."



A BREAKTHROUGH Bears guard Tyler Coston squeezes through the Huskies' defense on Friday.

### GOLDEN BEAR INVITATIONAL RESULTS AND ALL-STARS

#### Tournament All-Stars

##### Official picks:

- Concordia Stingers forward Patrick Perotte
- Simon Fraser Clan forward Brent Charlton
- Saskatchewan Huskies guard Sam Lamontagne
- Alberta Golden Bears guard Tyler Coston

##### The Gateway's picks:

- Simon Fraser Clan forward Aaron Christensen
- Alberta Golden Bears guard Mike Melnychuk
- Concordia Stingers guard Rastko Popovic
- Saskatchewan Huskies forward Matthew Greenberg

#### Tournament MVP

##### Official pick:

- Saskatchewan Huskies forward Andrew Spagrud

##### The Gateway's pick:

- Saskatchewan Huskies forward Andrew Spagrud

## Bears and Pandas fill the stands with young basketball players

PAUL OWEN  
Sports Writer

It's not very often that the U of A's Main Gym gets packed with spectators. So when the Edmonton Youth Basketball Association (EYBA) held their annual Girls Night Out and The Boys are Back in Town events on 22 and 30 October respectively, it was somewhat of a shock to see the gym's green and gold seats filled with young basketball players.

"It's great," third-year Bears forward Paul Marr said about the events, held each year at the Pandas Hoopfest and Golden Bear Invitational pre-season basketball tournaments. "The EYBA does a great job of getting all the kids out on certain nights and it just fills the gym up and gives us a lot of energy."

Both Bears head coach Don Horwood and Pandas head coach Trix Baker found the rowdy crowd gave their teams an edge.

"That's the kind of crowd we'd like to see here every night we play. I think it had an impact," said Horwood after the Bears' 72-66 win over the Simon Fraser Clan.

Girls Night Out was started three years ago as a way to promote university basketball in the Edmonton area. A year later, The Boys are Back

in Town was started as the male equivalent.

"Hopefully we'll get a following among the kids and they'll come out to more games," said former EYBA President Brian Anstice. "We don't have pro basketball [in Edmonton], so our University and college teams are the highest level our kids are going to see. It's extremely good basketball, but I think our kids can relate to those young men and women playing this level of basketball."

The plan may be working, as the gym was standing room only for both events this year with hundreds of screaming children cheering the Pandas and Bears on.

"It's great; I love playing in front of a full house. It motivates you to play that much harder; you want to bring the fans back into it [when you're down]. It gets you pretty pumped up—you don't want to let anybody down," said fifth-year Bears guard Mike Melnychuk.

To Anstice and the EYBA, the success of this year's events is the only first step in a larger plan to promote basketball in Edmonton.

"I believe down the line if we can find enough kids through community to high school then to university, then you bring out mom, dad, sister, brother and the next-door neighbour, and everybody wants to get involved in basketball," said Anstice.

#### Scores

##### Thursday

Concordia 85 Alberta 93

Saskatchewan 90 Simon Fraser 66

##### Friday

Saskatchewan 73 Alberta 67

Concordia 76 Simon Fraser 72 (OT)

##### Saturday

Simon Fraser 66 Alberta 72 (OT)

Saskatchewan 98 Concordia 6

#### Final Standings

Team	GP	W	L	PTS
Saskatchewan	3	3	0	6
Alberta	3	2	1	4
Concordia	3	1	2	2
Simon Fraser	3	0	3	0

Tournament champion: Saskatchewan Huskies



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Design by Erin Achinger

# Bears and Pandas soccer squads face last chance to make playoffs

JAKE TROUGHTON  
Sports Editor

This afternoon at Foote Field, both the Pandas and Golden Bears soccer teams will face their final opportunity to qualify for their respective Canada West championships taking place this weekend.

Both teams need a win to make it into the post-season when they face the Calgary Dinos to wrap up the Canada West regular season. The games were rescheduled from 17 October, when heavy snowfall and ice left the Foote Field surface unplayable, and now they've ended up being the most important games of the season for both teams.

The Bears sit two points behind the UBC Thunderbirds for third place in the conference and need to finish third to advance to the conference championship because the host Dinos, who will finish fifth regardless of this afternoon's result, get an automatic berth.

The Pandas, meanwhile, are tied with Calgary for fourth place and the final playoff spot, but because the Dinos won the first meeting of the year between the teams, Alberta needs to win and finish ahead of Calgary to claim the berth, whereas Calgary needs only a tie.

"I think that plays into our hands a little bit," said Vandergrift. "I think it's tough going into a game when you know all you need to do is tie. Sometimes you tend to defend a little more than you otherwise would. We know we have to go for broke, we know we have to get goals and take some chances, and hopefully those things turn out to work in our favour, where they're just trying to hold on."

"Had I had the choice, I'd probably like to be in the situation where a tie would be good enough," she admitted. "But at the same time, that can be a detriment."

Alberta's squads may be going into the games at a disadvantage, having just returned from a tough three-game road trip to British Columbia, where the Bears went 2-1 and the Pandas 1-2. The Dinos, meanwhile, played a home-and-home with the Lethbridge Pronghorns this weekend. Panda head coach Kelly Vandergrift admitted that her team, which will have played six games in eleven days, is feeling the effects of the tough schedule.

"When it comes down to a winner-take-all game, everything else gets put to the side," said Vandergrift. "We know what's at stake and we're at home, we feel comfortable with our surroundings, and hopefully we can use that to our advantage. Being tired

isn't an excuse."

Injuries or illness have added to the Pandas' woes heading in. Defender and captain Jessica Kinsey won't play this afternoon due to a concussion, while fellow defender Christine Kohlmaier may not play either, and several players have fallen ill.

"By this point in the season, you're sort of holding things together with tape. There've been a lot of injuries," said Vandergrift. "We're still banged up. Kohlmaier might be able to go, but I don't know for sure. And the other concern is, even if she is able to go, she hasn't touched a soccer ball in over a week. So how ready is she going to be?"

Scoring has been an apparent strong point for the Pandas this season—their 39 goals are second only to the first-place UBC Thunderbirds heading into today's game—but Vandergrift argued that her offense will need to pick up its play to lift the team into the playoffs.

"As many goals as we've scored, we've probably left that many out on the field," she said. "We need to put the ball in the net more often, and I'm hoping that [today] will be to be."

Game time for the Pandas is noon today at Foote Field. The Bears game will follow at 2:15pm.



RUBBING IT IN Centre Tyler Shybunka (16) face-washes Regina forward Ryan Pollock as the Bears beat the Cougars.

## SPORTS SHORTS

### Men's Hockey

The Golden Bears improved their conference record to 7-1 with a pair of wins over the Regina Cougars (1-5-2) at Clare Drake Arena over the weekend. Eight different Bears scored goals as Alberta won 4-1 on Friday and 5-1 on Saturday. Centre Doug Auchenberg led the scoring for the Bears, with two goals Saturday and an assist Friday. The Bears outshot the Cougars 90-25 over the weekend, including 50-9 on Friday.

Before the games, the Bears returned to the number-one spot in the latest CIS top-ten list after spending a week at number two. That ranking broke Alberta's streak of being ranked first in 37 straight polls.

### Football

Thanks to a pair of upsets Saturday on the last day of the regular season, the Calgary Dinos (4-4) finished fourth place in Canada West and will visit the Golden Bears (7-1) this weekend in the conference semi-final. The Dinos beat the eighth-ranked UBC Thunderbirds (5-3) 26-17, while the Simon Fraser Clan (3-5), who would have clinched the spot with a win, were upset 41-36 by the Manitoba Bisons (3-5).

### Women's Volleyball

The Pandas opened their regular season with a pair of straight-set wins on the road over the Saskatchewan Huskies (0-2). Friday, they won 25-12, 25-20, and 25-22; Saturday, they won 25-18, 25-18 and 25-22. Alberta currently sits in third

place behind the Calgary Dinos (4-0) and UBC Thunderbirds (3-0), who have played more matches, but the Pandas are the only team that has yet to lose a set this season.

### Men's Volleyball

The Bears also opened their season with two straight-set road wins, this time over the Regina Cougars (0-2). Alberta dominated the matches, winning 25-19, 25-10 and 25-13 on Saturday, and 25-15, 25-10 and 25-17 on Sunday.

### Women's Hockey

Forward Danielle Bourgeois scored the only goal as the Pandas beat the Edmonton Chimos 1-0 in overtime in an exhibition game in Boyle, Alberta on Saturday.

# THE STATS PAGE

## Football

Canada West standings

Team	GP	W	L	T	OTL	PF	PA	PTS
x-Alberta	8	7	1	0	0	235	145	14
x-Sask	8	6	2	0	0	266	91	12
x-UBC	8	5	3	0	0	235	212	10
x-Calgary	8	4	4	0	0	147	189	8
Simon Fraser	8	3	5	0	0	174	232	6
Manitoba	8	3	5	0	0	191	237	6
Regina	8	0	8	0	0	116	280	0

x—Clinched playoff berth (top four teams qualify).

## Results

Saturday

SFU	36	Mainitoba	41	Sask	49	Regina	7
Calgary	26	UBC	17				

End of regular season

## CIS Top Ten (last week)

1. Montréal (1)	6. Saskatchewan (6)
2. Wilfrid Laurier (3)	7. Western (7)
3. Laval (3)	8. UBC (9)
4. McMaster (4)	9. Acadia (NR)
5. Alberta (5)	10. Saint Mary's (8)

## Men's Soccer

Canada West standings

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
x-TWU	12	9	1	2	26	10	29
x-Victoria	12	8	2	2	34	11	26
UBC	12	7	4	1	33	13	22
Alberta	11	6	3	2	27	13	20
x-Calgary	11	3	5	3	17	25	12
Lethbridge	12	1	9	2	9	40	5
Saskatchewan	12	0	10	2	12	46	2

x—Clinched conference championship berth (top three plus host Calgary qualify).

## Results

Thursday

Alberta	1	TWU	2	Sask	0	Victoria	9
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Saturday

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Calgary	1	Leth	1	Leth	2	Calgary	4
---------	---	------	---	------	---	---------	---

Alberta	2	UBC	1	Alberta	2	Victoria	1
---------	---	-----	---	---------	---	----------	---

Sask	0	TWU	3	Sask	1	UBC	6
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## Schedule

Today

Calgary @ Alberta 2:15pm

End of regular season

## Women's Soccer

Canada West standings

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
x-UBC	14	9	2	3	42	12	30
x-TWU	14	9	2	3	30	12	30
x-Victoria	14	7	4	3	37	15	24
Calgary	13	6	5	2	23	9	20
Alberta	13	6	5	2	39	23	20
Lethbridge	14	6	6	2	25	30	20
Saskatchewan	14	3	10	1	12	34	10
Regina	14	1	13	0	7	79	3

x—Clinched conference championship berth (top three plus host UBC qualify).

## Results

Thursday

Alberta	0	TWU	1	Sask	0	Victoria	2
---------	---	-----	---	------	---	----------	---

Saturday

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Calgary	1	Leth	2	Leth	2	Calgary	1
---------	---	------	---	------	---	---------	---

Alberta	2	UBC	2	Alberta	2	Victoria	2
---------	---	-----	---	---------	---	----------	---

Sask	0	TWU	4	Sask	1	UBC	5
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## Schedule

Today

Calgary @ Alberta 12pm

End of regular season

## Men's Hockey

Canada West standings

Mountain Division

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Alberta	8	7	1	0	41	15	14
Calgary	6	2	2	2	24	17	6
Lethbridge	8	1	7	0	17	55	2
UBC	6	0	4	2	15	28	2

Great Plains Division

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Saskatchewan	6	5	0	1	29	15	11
Manitoba	6	4	1	1	29	12	9
Regina	8	1	5	2	21	34	4

## Results

Friday

Lethbridge	1	Manitoba	6	Lethbridge	1	Manitoba	10
Calgary	4	Sask	6	Calgary	2	Sask	4
Regina	1	Alberta	4	Regina	1	Alberta	5

CIS Top Ten (last week)

1. Alberta (2)	6. UQTR (8)
2. St Francis Xavier (3)	7. Western (7)
3. Saskatchewan (4)	8. Manitoba (9)
4. UNB (1)	9. Calgary (NR)
5. Lakehead (6)	10. York (5)

## Women's Hockey

Canada West standings

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Alberta	4	4	0	0	24	2	8
Regina	4	3	1	0	17	11	6
Lethbridge	4	2	1	1	13	14	5
Manitoba	4	1	2	1	6	17	3
Saskatchewan	4	1	3	0	10	16	2
UBC	4	1	3	0	7	17	2

## Results

Friday

Manitoba	1	Lethbridge	1	Manitoba	4	Lethbridge	3
UBC	0	Regina	5	UBC	2	Regina	3

## Women's Volleyball

Canada West standings

Team	MP	W	L	GW	GL	PTS
Calgary	4	4	0	12	3	8
UBC	3	3	0	9	1	6
Alberta	2	2	0	6	0	4
TWU	2	2	0	6	3	4
Regina	1	0	1	0	3	0
Winnipeg	2	0	2	2	6	0
Manitoba	2	0	2	1	6	0
Saskatchewan	2	0	2	0	6	0
Simon Fraser	4	0	4	4	12	0

## Results

Thursday

Winnipeg	1	Calgary	3	TWU	3	Simon Fraser	2
Alberta	3	Sask	0	Winnipeg	1	Calgary	3

Saturday

TWU	3	Simon Fraser	1	UBC	3	Regina	0
-----	---	--------------	---	-----	---	--------	---

Alberta

3

Regina

0

Alberta

3

Regina

0

## Results

Sunday

Saturday	Sunday
Alberta	3

Alberta

3

Regina

0

Alberta

3

Regina

0



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# Finding beauty in the darkest places

**Carmen Angel**

Directed by Jonathan Christensen  
Starring Chris Craddock  
Catalyst Theatre (8529 Gateway Boulevard)  
3-14 November at 8pm

**COSANA PRESTON**  
Senior News Editor

A gruesome chronicle of rape, murder and revenge combines with beautiful memories and characters from a childhood long past in Catalyst Theatre's season opener *Carmen Angel*.

The play tells the tale of Joe, a troubled crime-scene photographer reminiscing about a summer with his childhood sweetheart Carmen, who was brutally raped and murdered on his tenth birthday.

Written and composed by Joey Tremblay and director Jonathan Christensen, the play evolved from a series of Tremblay's dreams that featured a creepy mortician character and his own childhood memories of life growing up in Saskatchewan.

"We were actually on a retreat in Banff, at the Banff Centre [for the Arts] ... and Joey started doing some writing and it came, like, in five days," says Christensen. "Most of the work that we've done really just comes from whatever images and stories and feelings that we're obsessing about at the time."

Initially envisioned as a multi-cast piece, financial constraints and workshopping encouraged Christensen to consider writing the show as a solo piece.

The reformed play was workshopped in March 2003 with three live music and Tremblay playing the character of Joe.

But this production of *Carmen Angel* brings a new twist: Christensen has scrapped the musicians, new music and has cast local playwright and actor Chris Craddock behind the one-man play.

"It feels like a piece that's really about the way that one person is haunted by memories and



dreams. So he kind of conjures the characters up throughout the course of the piece. ... And I think the central character has a little bit of a lighter touch," Christensen says of Craddock in comparison to Tremblay.

"He's a little less tormented and a little more likable and I think that's kind of clarified some of the ideas of the piece, because it is a revenge play and I've never been into the idea of revenge," Christensen said, explaining that one of his largest challenges was finding balance.

Christensen didn't want Joe to be portrayed as a monster because he figured most people could relate and understand the feeling of revenge, yet

he was concerned about how the message of the play would come across if the audience was too sympathetic to Joe, as Christensen definitely does not want to advocate vigilantism.

"The challenge was to clarify the story and find the layers aside from the darkness of the play, because obviously it's a fairly ugly story in terms of the part of it that's about the murder of this young girl," he says.

"But it's also got a lot of beauty in it and I think that you can get lost when you're looking at the darker things. Ultimately this story has a lot of great memories of a beautiful time and interesting people and true individuals, and I think in

the end it's an affirmation of community and love."

Carmen Angel also premiered in Vancouver last week, which Christensen says gave him a chance to test his changes on a neutral crowd. But ultimately, he is looking forward to the Edmonton run and the hometown audience.

"It's kind of fun to test out a show on an audience that's not a hometown crowd; you get a very objective response to the show. It's great because it means you really discover where the strengths and weaknesses are of a piece and then when you bring it home you can just enjoy the warmth of a hometown crowd."

# Kidman's acting talent brings *Birth* to life

Philosophical/supernatural thriller full of profound performances and profoundly disturbing love scenes

**Birth**

Directed by Jonathan Glazer  
Starring Nicole Kidman, Lauren Bacall,  
Danny Huston and Cameron Bright  
Now Playing

**TYSON KABAN**  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

You would think that a movie which involves a grown woman kissing and bathing with a ten-year-old boy would be some kind of disturbing, underground piece of filth.

But *Birth*'s no piece of trash; it's director-writer Jonathan Glazer's (*Sexy Beast*) second feature, a tense exploration of our eagerness to explain the normal with the supernatural. His delicate balance of art-house expression, paired with an eerie Polanski-esque aura, results in a compelling, philosophical thriller.

Nicole Kidman plays Anna, a disillusioned widow who, after a decade of mourning the loss of her husband Sean, decides to remarry. Immediately after her engagement party, a young man (Cameron Bright) appears on her doorstep, claiming to be the reincarnation of her dead husband.

After Sean confirms that he knows some of the most intimate details of Anna's marriage, she becomes more and more convinced that the young boy is indeed her husband and struggles to prevent her unorthodox relationship with Sean from crossing into indecent territory.

Kidman's past performances in *The Hours* and *Dogville* have proven that she's an actress most comfortable and effective portraying dark, tormented heroines like Anna.

And Glazer highlights not only Kidman's talent, but an even greater attribute: her face. When Anna is rushed to the symphony after a confrontation with Sean, Glazer gives Kidman a five-minute close-up. In these five minutes, Kidman's face, framed by an adorable pixie cut, conveys Anna's desperation, confusion, and terror with a silent, steely, tear-filled gaze.

The rest of the cast also render strong performances. As her patient fiancé, Joseph, Danny Huston supports Anna in her quest for the truth, but isn't compelled by young Sean's claims. And the rest of the characters also have difficulty believing Anna's story. Led by her steady mother Eleanor (Lauren Bacall), Anna's family and friends take the place of the conscience that she willfully ignores.

The relationship between Anna and the young Sean, supernaturally destined or not, comes to a surprising conclusion that explains just as much as it leaves unanswered—it's not made clear whether or not Anna is the victim of a practical joke, of her own yearning, or of some divine intervention.

But those unanswered questions, and the enigma of life after death, make *Birth* more profound than confusing.

They also account for Anna's erratic behaviour. She's been given the opportunity to unlock those

cryptic questions for herself, and regardless of whether young Sean is really Anna's reincarnated husband or a fraud, he holds the key to Anna's dilemma.

Even with the uncomfortable scenes shared between a grown woman and a ten-year-old boy, *Birth* is certainly not an unsettling piece of child exploitation. It's a smart film about the bleakness of life—the bleak life that Anna and all of us are forced to live—and how we must all continue with our lives, even if the death of a loved one makes that task seem impossible. It's an observation that's perhaps even more disturbing than Nicole Kidman kissing a fifth-grader.



## Raving for Ray

**Ray**

Directed by Taylor Hackford  
Starring Jamie Foxx, Keri Washington,  
Richard Schiff and Curtis Armstrong  
*Now Playing*

**MICHAEL LAROCQUE**  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Ray Charles can teach everyone a life lesson or two. Lessons of hope, triumphing over adversity, and reaching your goals are all valuable teachings that can be taken from the life of the musician who wrote such hits as "Georgia on my Mind" and "Hit the Road, Jack." And these lessons all come to bear in the new biopic *Ray*.

Yet the most remarkable thing to be learned from *Ray* is just how much distance Jamie Foxx has managed to put between his performance in this movie and past work such as *Booy Call*. The truly outstanding thing about *Ray* is the incredible acting on the part of Foxx and the supporting cast. Foxx embodies Ray Charles to such an extent that you can't help but forget that he's an actor playing a part and not the soul star himself.

Richard Schiff (*The West Wing*) puts a subtle brilliance into the role of Atlantic Records co-founder Jerry Wexler, and Curtis Armstrong, who has previously only been seen in minor, goofy roles (he played the campus cop in *Van Wilder*), gives a performance that's a career best as Wexler's partner, Ambet Erreugan.

Still, the fairest that will surely surround this movie come awards time will undoubtedly be focused on Foxx, who has not only proven himself a diverse leading man, but has almost definitely secured himself an Oscar

nomination.

*Ray* follows the American soul icon through his early years—growing up in the south through to his beginnings as a recording artist—chronicling Charles' journey from travelling with a small band all the way to his signing with Atlantic Records and his change to ABC Music. Along with profiling his illustrious but often tumultuous career, the film details Charles' troubled life as a young man, paying equal attention to his wife and kids as it does to his adulterous affairs off the road and his decade-long struggle with heroin.

Stopping abruptly in the late '70s, *Ray*, like any biopic, glosses over certain information and leaves out certain parts of Charles' life, but with an open portrayal of his faults and vices, one would be hard pressed to call *Ray* sugarcoated.

And one would also be hard pressed to find any glaring faults with the film. The movie does run on the long side, coming in at over two and half hours, but it's time well used. The audience is treated to several performances of Ray Charles' hit songs in full, and even scenes that would seem boring—contract negotiations, for instance—are shot so tightly that every word, action, and nuance is crucial to the story and characters.

*Ray* is easily one of the best movies that will come out this year. And, given the passing of Ray Charles last June, the film contains a sad timeliness that will endear it to viewers. As great as the film is, the credit for its success is ultimately going to be attributed by individual performances—and rightfully so. Come awards night, put your money on *Ray*.

## Sex, drugs and urination

### *The Black Halos*

with Zeke  
Starlite Lounge  
Tuesday, 2 November at 8pm

**TREVOR NAULT**  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

This evening, when Vancouver-based punk rock quintet The Black Halos take the stage at the Starlite Lounge, don't be surprised if Billy Hopeless ends up stripped down to a leopard-print thong or decides to bleed all over the place.

"Free-formed debauchery is a good way to put it," says lead singer Hopeless.

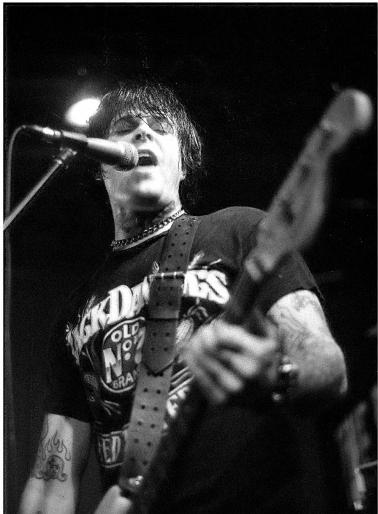
"Everyone just lets go; that's what rock n' roll is all about. It's like sex or dancing or skateboarding: if you just let go and let the animal instinct take over, you'll do great. You'll probably be doing something amazing and end up looking at yourself and going, 'Wow, I can't believe I pulled that trick,' or 'Wow, that dance move was really nice,' or 'Wow, she actually came before I did.'"

**"Me and a roadie for one of the other bands we were on tour with were having sort of an out-punk each other contest... I'm on stage and suddenly I feel this wetness on my shoulder. I look over and there he is with an Angus Young smile peeing on me."**

**BILLY HOPELESS,**  
LEAD SINGER, THE BLACK HALOS

One thing that can always be expected of The Halos is their wild and downright strange behaviour—behaviour that's occasionally involved a few bodily fluids.

"I've been urinated on; that was pretty exciting," recalls Hopeless. "Me and a roadie for one of the other bands we were on tour with were having



FILE PHOTO: MATT FREHNER

**DIRTY BILLY** One wee-wee prank deserves another for The Black Halos.

sort of an out-punk each other contest between the two of us. I'm on stage and suddenly I feel this wetness on my shoulder. I look over and there he is with an Angus Young smile peeing on me."

But Hopeless wouldn't be "out-punked" by some roadie with bladder-control issues.

"The next day we see the band van at this vegetarian restaurant. So I run in and they're still eating vegetarian omelettes and I ram my finger up my ass and show it up his nose, taking the Dirty Sanchez one step further to the 'Dirty Billy.' He starts vomiting on the table and everyone in the restaurant is just staring."

And the rock n' roll mayhem promises to continue on the Halos' current tour, as they've brought along their good friends from the United States, Zeke.

"Zeke encompass what rock n' roll should be: they're dirty, they're raw, they're fast as hell, they're totally uncensored and uncut, and they're not angels by any means."

The two bands have toured together before, but this will be their first joint venture across Canada. And Hopeless couldn't be more excited.

"I think it's gonna be amazing; it's Canada's first chance to experience Zeke and Zeke's first chance to experience Canada. There's gonna be many strange occurrences at Husky gas stations along the way."

And whether those strange occurrences involve urine or not, Hopeless is sure the tour will make an impact and he promises an experience to remember.

"Ladies and gentlemen: this is the great Canadian train wreck, and everyone loves a train wreck."

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# U of A artist puts his faith in painting



PAIN'T IT THE TRUTH? Colin Birnie displays his paintings at the FAB Gallery.

## *faith in the machine*

By Colin Birnie  
FAB Gallery  
Showing until 13 November

JEREMY SHRAGG  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

In today's era of high-speed Internet, high-definition TV and digital photography, the continued relevancy of painting is by no means guaranteed.

In fact, as a cultural and artistic medium, painting may be approaching obsolescence.

For fine-arts graduate student Colin Birnie, conveying meaning with paint and canvas can be a challenge.

"We have such a connection to the visual world now because the way we live our lives that it's almost like we're moving beyond being able to look at static images anymore," Birnie says.

"Even photography—we flip through things—or we're on the Internet and we're clicking our mouse every five seconds because we get bored looking at the same thing. So it's a battle."

Like painting, the role that religion and sacred ritual have to play in Western society is undergoing a revolution. In faith in the machine, the visual presentation of Birnie's Masters thesis now showing at the FAB Gallery, Birnie deconstructs and confronts a number of religious elements. And, of course, his medium of choice is paint.

"One thing I'm really concerned [about] is what painting means today; what painting can say about the world

"We have such a connection to the visual world now, because of the way we live our lives that it's almost like we're moving beyond being able to look at static images anymore. Even photography—we flip through things—or we're on the Internet and we're clicking our mouse every five seconds because we get bored looking at the same thing. So it's a battle."

COLIN BIRNIE, MFA PAINTING STUDENT

want to be on the outside in relation to how we feel inside,' which is baptism, right?"

"So I was thinking about using images from the Internet from plastic surgery websites that showed these distinct before-and-after images [to] see how there was something involved in the transition from one to the other that painting could explore."

Another form of bodily metaphor-physics, taxonomy, and its intersection with technology and ritual is explored prominently in several of the pieces on display.

According to Birnie, "Tattooing starts off being very religious—that's the origin of tattooing. And yet there has been this huge return to this kind of tribal feeling: that you get these tattoos and this machine entering your body to mark you, and essentially—ideally—making you the person you think you should be identified as."

Even though he concedes that painting is one of the least commonly used media for accessing images in the 21st century, Birnie is not yet ready to pronounce it defunct.

"Can painting still say anything? I hope it still can."

# Existential angst has never looked this pretty

*Ghost in the Shell 2: Innocence* is a visually arresting film that's heavy on the dense, philosophical dialogue

## *Ghost in the Shell 2: Innocence*

Directed by Mamoru Oshii  
Starring Atsuko Tanaka  
and Atsuko Tanaka  
South Edmonton Common  
Now Playing

DANIEL KASZOR  
Production Editor

Of all the anime in the late '80s and early '90s, with the possible exception of *Akira*, *Ghost in the Shell* was the most influential in bringing the genre to Western audiences. The movie's hypnotic visual style and mature subject matter made for a convincing argument that cartoons weren't just for kids.

Nine years later, *Ghost in the Shell 2: Innocence* has been released. It's even more visually arresting but, is, unfortunately, not as accessible as the original.

In *Ghost in the Shell*, protagonist Major Motoko Kusanagi merged with a computer-based super-intelligence and evolved her consciousness. Now, her ex-partner, cybernetic cop Batou, is wandering through life with little purpose or drive, his only joy being his fat old dog. The film chronicles Batou as he questions the meaning of his (and everyone's) existence and follows a bizarre series of murders performed by mechanical dolls designed for pleasure.

There are two things that are immediately noticeable about *Innocence*: the shockingly beautiful amalgamation of computer and hand-drawn animation, and the endless dialogues,

literary references and heady philosophical commentary.

Director Mamoru Oshii has called the movie the greatest technical piece of animation ever conceived, and watching *Innocence* it's difficult to argue with that point.

**Aside from the fact that anime has become part of the cultural landscape and doesn't have the same shock value as did nine years ago, *Innocence* is simply too philosophically dense (some would say pretentious) for a mainstream audience.**

The merging of computer graphics and 2D cell animation isn't seamless, but it flows together amazingly well. The huge, colourful city panoramas from the first movie are also present in *Innocence*, but have an added depth and polish. And the characters are fascinating to look at because of the immense attention to detail. Some sequences that consist of just music and impressive cityscapes are so beautiful that they are able to easily stand on their own without the need for any dialogue or narrative.

However, the quickly paced subtitles go by so fast that the stunning visuals



are just a blur. *Innocence* is wordy, so wordy that it makes fun of its own long-windedness on a few occasions. In one scene, Batou and his partner argue for five minutes with quotes from Milton, and Batou mentions how absurd it is for two cops to even know half of the direct quotations that they are making. Absurd indeed.

This heavy philosophical and introspective stance dominates the film, and the plot becomes more or less an afterthought, an excuse for the dialogue. While this element was certainly also present in the first film,

the philosophical elements were at least tied to the main story. Here the plot often seems almost to be a nuisance placed in the film simply to fulfill the desire to paint more beautiful cityscapes.

And what story there is moves rather predictably. There's little doubt Batou will find Major Kusanagi again. But her eventual *deus ex machina* return is a stroke of ironic brilliance, as her character has literally become a mechanical god.

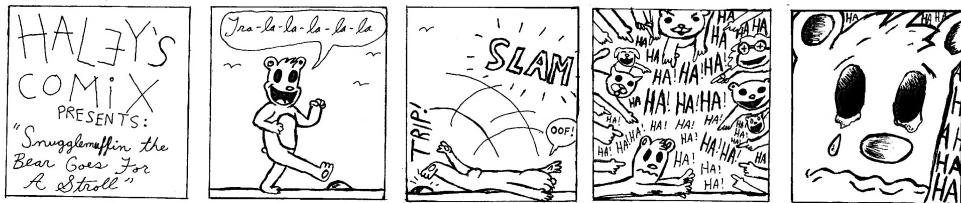
In the end, while *Innocence* will be a hit for fans of the original, and

anime in general, it certainly isn't the kind of movie that would spark a mainstream revolution like its prequel. Aside from the fact that anime has become part of the cultural landscape and doesn't have the same shock value it did nine years ago, *Innocence* is simply too philosophically dense (some would say pretentious) for a mainstream audience. More of a film to write a paper on than to eat popcorn to, the movie is only really worth going out of your way to see if you're into anime, art movies or are overly interested in existential angst.

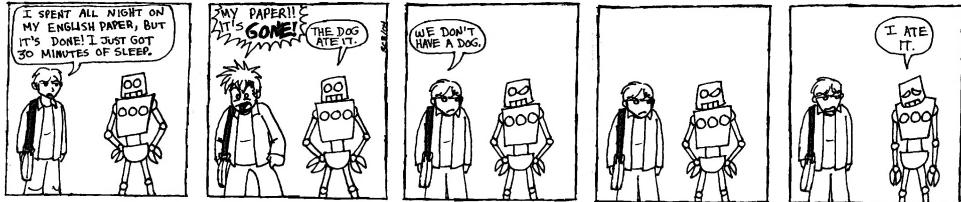
## EXCITING DATING COMIC! by Mike Winters



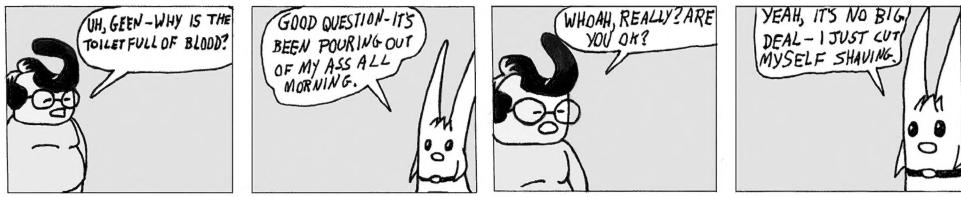
## HALEY'S COMIX by Mike Robertson



## LOGIC PUZZLE by Scott C Bourgeois



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Les Saisons Lingerie in West Edmonton Mall is looking for an energetic, hardworking and friendly salesperson to work evenings and a few weekends. If this sounds like you call Nicole @ 444-0929 or drop off a resumé.

Valet Parking company seeking clean abstract drivers (Auto and Manual). Shift rates + Tips. Resumé at [cachetvalets@shaw.ca](mailto:cachetvalets@shaw.ca).

Love Babies? Need a part-time job? Baby & Beyond is looking for a mature, reliable sales assoc in our West Edmonton location. Salary is \$7-\$9/hr. Flexible shifts avail. Apply w/resume to 168, 17010 104 Ave. Ph: 489-4759.

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pldt. Serious money for the right person. www.westernrecruit.com Looking for an enthusiastic, energetic, loving person to provide child care in our home Tue and Thu from 7:30am to 5pm. Children are 4 years and 17 months. Please call Karen at 418-3479 or e-mail [shulepk@shaw.ca](mailto:shulepk@shaw.ca).

Rink Manager, kennedy, 30 hrs/week. \$1500/mo. Parkallen Community. Contact Donna, 4347-3163, evenings.

SICK AND TIRED OF BEING BROKE? Come see us and you can learn how to make EXTRA CASH and win prizes. Wednesday 3 Nov or Nov from 3pm to 4pm at Scholars pub (downstairs) 11113 87 Ave. For more info contact Trevor at 668-2274 (668-CASH) or Sylvie at 988-2158.

RESEARCH FOR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION TO PEOPLE TO WORK. PIT. Flexible schedule. Great Income! 1-888-285-5066 [www.inspringsedge.com](http://www.inspringsedge.com)

Work THURSDAYS 8am to 4:30pm on a packaging line. Outside location close to the University with easy bus access. Lifting up to 30 lbs. Stoofour. Call Lawonne at 436-8922. Starts immediately.

Part-time in a friendly retail environment. Some knowledge of home brewing an asset. No desire to learn. Flexible hours. Apply with résumé and availability to Southside Brew Crew Lennox Shopping Centre 5718 111 St, or e-mail [tidemil@telus.ca](mailto:tidemil@telus.ca)

PRESTIGIOUS PAID INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY. Ogilvy Public Relations Worldwide ([www.ogilvypr.com](http://www.ogilvypr.com)) seeks college interns for its award-winning public relations campaign. Work is conducted on campus, primarily between January and May 2005. Open to undergraduates only in their junior or senior year. Students with majors in public relations, communications, markets, advertising and journalism are strongly urged to apply. E-mail resume for Internship to [ogilvypr.com](mailto:ogilvypr.com). Deadline: 25 November, 2004.

**VOLUNTEERS WANTED** Do you like to help others? We need people to tutor them in our lab and give their opinion. You will be paid a few dollars for your time. Call 415-6268 or e-mail [cptc@govt.ac](mailto:cptc@govt.ac) for more info.

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**HAPPY BOB KNOWS**

Campus events and more...

Banff Anime Klub of Alberta presents

Ghibli movie night, on 5 November from 6pm to 10pm in Education North 2-15. We will be showing the movies Whispers of the Heart and The Cat Returns both by the famous Japanese director Hayao Miyazaki (Spirited Away, Princess Mononoke). The event is open to the general public and admission is free although we will be collecting for the Campus Food Bank. For more information, please contact Tara Jorgenson at [tgj@ualberta.ca](mailto:tgj@ualberta.ca) or visit [www.ualberta.ca/~balba](http://www.ualberta.ca/~balba).

Happy Bob Knows is a service provided for Registered Student Groups and University Departments only. As of this issue, events which have a monetary cost associated with them can not run in HBK.

Please note: the events listed in HBK are not endorsed by the Gateway Student Journalism Society. HBK is only printed in the Tuesday editions of the Gateway each week. HBK does not publish events that are weekly, on-going, or not open to the public. Submissions will print for one issue only. To add an entry please go to [www.gateway.ualberta.ca/hbk](http://www.gateway.ualberta.ca/hbk).



What's this? A *Gateway* political commentary? Nope. A simple colour level test. Also, write for the *Gateway*.



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